1	2	3	4
3	NH 117	The highway starting from its junction with NH 6 connecting Kona Expressway-Vidyasagar Setu-Kolkata-Diamond harbour-Kulpi-Namkhana and terminating at Bakkhali	133
		Sub Total	**374**
20	**Andaman & Nicobar Islands**		
1	NH 223	The Andaman Trunk Road	300
		Sub Total	**300**
		Grand Total	**7457**

Sethu Samudram Project

†2002. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to start Sethu Samudram Project;

(b) if so, the distance likely to be reduced for ships sailing from West to East Coast and *vice-versa* following the completion of the said project;

(c) whether larger ships would also be able to sail through this way after the completion of this project;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the steps Government propose to take to enable larger ships also to sail through this way?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) The Government is already implementing Sethu Samudram Ship Channel Project.

(b) Once complete, the navigable distance for the ships sailing from the west to the east coast and *vice-versa* will be reduced in the range of 254—424 nautical miles.

(c) to (e) Keeping in view the environmental sensitivity of the region and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

economic viability of the project, creation of channel to enable vessels drawing a draught of upto 10 metres only has been taken up at present.

Highways in Bihar

†2003. SHRI MANGANILAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 206 kilometer length of highways of Golden Quadrilateral Express way is under construction in Bihar under National Highways Development Project; and

(b) if so, the time stipulated for completing its construction and the details regarding its status of construction so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 206 kms of National Highway No.-2 is a part of Golden Quadrilateral in Bihar. Work in 137 kms length has been completed as on 30.06.2005 and work in the remaining 69 Kms length is in progress. The construction work is targeted to be completed by June 2006.

Declaration of National Highways in Madhya Pradesh

†2004. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads in Madhya Pradesh declared as National Highways during the last three years;

(b) whether the level/surface of these highways is according to the parameters set for National Highways; and

(c) if not, by when these highways are likely to be upgraded as per the parameters set for National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Three roads (namely Sagar Bina as National Highway-26A, Raisen-Rahatgarh as

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